

Volume 11, Number 7

July 1968

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CHOLLA CHATTER Official Publication of the CHOLLA BAY SPORTSMEN'S CLUB. INC. P.O. Box 7171, Phoenix, Arizona 85011

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From the Editor's Desk

Well, I goofed again. I held up the Chatter in order to get the list of Derby winners and prize donors and then didn't get them. I did get some pictures though and I sure hope to have the complete details in the August issue

Anyway, the Derby was a huge success and everybody in volved with putting it on sure deserves a lot of thanks and credit. There were lots of fish caught and so much was turned over to the fish fry that the M.C. invited everyone to go back for seconds and even thirds.

The Search & Rescue Team had it easy though. They were all set to charge out looking for a missing boat at 6:30 on Sunday only to discover that it had managed to get it on its own power about 4 a, m. Another boat wasn't so lucky and burned up along the road between Rocky Point and Sonoyta, I'd like to get more details on both episodes.

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CAN FISH LEARN TO AVOID FISHERMEN?

Can fish learn that it is dangerous to get in the path of a trawl or to get too interested in a hook? Mr. J.H.S. Blaxter of the Marine Laboratory, Aberdeen, has researched the ability of fish to learn by experience.

Fish learn by association. In a tank, they will learn to associate a stimulus in the form of a noise, taste or temperature change with "feeding time". Thus stimulated, they will learn to go where food has been given. One test involved swimming up a slight ramp. Soon the fish would swim up the ramp when the stimulus was applied without food.

About 30 "stimulating" experiences are needed to establish a new behavior pattern that, once learned, can be retained up to 9 months.

It is now known how often fish may avoid commercial fishing gear. Salmon and trout, threatened repeatedly by the angler, can become difficult to catch, having learned success through each survival experience. Age brings experience, but it also brings greater size and swimming power—up to a point, when old age might diminish the powers of escape. Which is the operative factor?

Tank experiments may show whether this escape knowledge can be passed to other fish (an older fish leading others from danger). However, takn fish behavior may differ from that of ocean fish. Science hopes to find answers through research. (World Fishing.")

- From Commercial Fisheries Review May 1968

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By Gene Henry

Of all the beaches in the Rocky Point area, my favorite for surf fishing is the stretch between Joe Espinosa's First Estuary and the second estuary below Rocky Point, commonly referred to as St. George's Bay. This approximate 20 miles of beach furnishes some of the finest seatrout and pompano fishing on the east coast of the Gulf.

The only access to this beach is a privately built and maintained road passing through private property under the ownership and management of Joe Espinosa. A nominal fee is

charged for the use of the road in order to defray part of the maintenance costs. Be sure to check in with Mr. Espinosa or one of his representatives if you plan to camp in the area or fish the beach.

One of the most impressive things about this beach is the absence of litter. Garbage and trash cans are available in the camping area and one thing Joe insists on is that no litter be left on the beach or at camp sites. I don't see how anyone can fail to appreciate this request when they compare the beautiful unblemished beach with our own lake areas soiled and cluttered by beer cans and other litter.

Another aspect of this unspoiled area that my family and I particularly enjoy is the abundance of animal and bird life. Joe is an avid conservationist and no hunting is allowed. The estuary itself abounds with many rare species of marine birds and the surrounding desert furnishes a home for gambel quail and other species of desert birds. The last time I was down, we had to stop the car several times to let





covies of baby quail be shepherded across the road by momma and papa. A pair of binoculars can add many pleasant hours watching these birds in their natural habitat.

Joe and his wife have a way with animals that never ceases to amaze me. If you pass by his home during the early morning or late evening hours you will see little cottontail rabbits coming out from every hill-side to be fed. When Joe starts calling in his native Spanish they pop out of the bushes and start trooping in like kids at mealtime.

One of the most amusing wild critters that Joe has tamed is a pet roadrunner. I don't know how Joe mastered his lingo, but when they start clucking at one another it's hard to tell which is the roadrunner. This old rascal troops into the house behind Joe just like he owns the place and Joe tells me he now brings his Missus and young ones in to visit and be fed.

If you plan to fish this beach, remember that you are passing through privately owned property and have access due to the many hours of hard labor and considerable expense the home owner and Mr. Espinosa have gone to in constructing the road around the estuary and over the dunes to the homesite area. Abide by the simple and reasonable rules of behavior requested and you will be rewarded with many pleasant hours of fishing and relaxation.

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Gemini IV Photographs

Those who want to purchase photographs of the Gulf such as the one on the May cover canget them from Creative Arts Studio, Inc., 814 H. Street N.W., Washington, D.C., 20001. The cost is as follows:

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Type	Size	& White	Color								
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CHOLLA CHICKEN

On a recent four day weekend at Cholla Bay, Lloyd Blackmer was plagued by a chicken that wanted to come to dinner. Lloyd kept chasing it away but it kept coming back and roosting on his boat or trailer. Now that is something that no one wants his boat and trailer exposed to, so Mr. Blackmer kept chasing it away. Since the wind blew everyday poor Lloyd didn't get to go out in his boat fishing so he was really getting annoved with that chicken. The last day when he started to pack for the return trip to Phoenix, however, the chicken disappeared--for awhile. Lloyd later discovered it sitting on a nest of eggs in his boat. Turns out the Cholla Chicken was his own chicken from home that had ridden all the way from Phoenix to Cholla in Mr. Blackmer's boat.



Mildred Krause of E. 9th Street, was operated March 29. Mildred, we hope you are up and feeling fit again.

-Art Schwarz 5/17/68

TIDE CALENDARS

Arrangements have been made to sell the Tide Calendars at the monthly meetings of both the Phoenix and Tucson Chapters for \$1.00 each.

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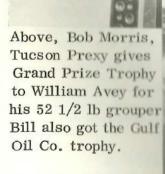


Mike Valentine Won 1st & 2nd Prizes for Dolphin and the Club trophy for 1st Dolphin of the season.

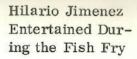
First Prize Dolphin Caught By Mike Valentine



Mary Parker, Harold and Jo Ann Johnson serving at the popular Fish Fry.









Bob Parnell weighs a 42 pound Grouper caught by Roger Glover. Scales were donated by Bayless Markets. In the next Cholla Chatter will be a complete list of those firms who contributed to make the 1968 Derby one of our very best.



Bob Parnell Weighs Charles Nelson's 124-lb Team Catch



Cooks Debbie Jarvis and Bill Sanderson Lent Help

CHOLLA LIBRARY

All members who have books to donate to the Cholla Library please turn them over to Patty at the Radio Shack.



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One thing we have in our Search and Rescue Team is two men that are always in the right place at the right time. One is Lloyd Blackmer and the other is Jack Schmidt. Lloyd has a 150 Watt marine radio and Jack has a C.B. rig. These two are always willing and ready to give a hand to someone in trouble. Not that the rest of the team members aren't but it seems that it just falls their lot.

When you see a boat with a red flag with white lettering you will know that it is Cholla Bay Search and Rescue Boat

When in trouble and call for help, first try to get a compass bearing on Pelican Point and one from some other mountain or sand dune. Then call the radio operator and give her the information. This will help us locate your position and we can get to you much sooner.

Incidentally, if you are able to get underway after you have called in, please call back and let the radio operator know.

Also, when you are out always watch for someone else that may be in trouble. It only takes a short time to go over and check and you might save someone a lot of grief.

-Lyle Rogers

Poisonous Marine Fishes From Western Mexico Waters

Recently received volume two of Poisonous and Venemous Marine Animals of the World by Bruce Halstead. This volume contains 1070 9" x 11 3/4" pages devoted to poisonous fishes and was sponsored by the Air Force, Army and Navy Medical Departments. I've only skimmed through the tome, but have already discovered that it has more information in it about poisonous fishes than I want to know. Dr. Halstead takes up nine different types of fish poisoning and then ends up with a miscellaneous grouping for those that don't fit the first nine. Note that I said types of fish poisoning not types of poisonous fishes. While some types of fish produce only one type of poisoning, some types of fish may produce several different types of poisoning depending on circumstances. It's those circumstances that are fascinatingand disturbing. The fact seems to be that those circumstances are largely still unknown. In many instances different specimens swimming in the same school will vary from deadly to non-poisonous and it is usual, apparently, for the same species to vary in its toxicity from time to time and place to place.

Idon't know if there have been cases of fish poisoning in the Gulf, but assume there have been since some of the fishes reported as being poisonous occur here. The book does not have a geographic index so I thumbed through page by page and made a list of all species of fish listed in the book as occurring in West Mexican waters. This includes those

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2102 E. McDowell AL 8-6196 that are "world-wide in warm waters"and "circumtropical". This came to an amazing 61 species belonging to 34 families in 8 orders of fishes. The following list is taken from Dr. Halstead's book and is in alphabetical order by class and then by Order.

CLASS CHONDRICHTHYES

Order Squaliformes: Sharks 5 species including the blue, white and hammerhead.

CLASS OSTEICHTHYES

Order Anguilliformes: True Eels 4 species including the Moray eel Order Beloniformes: Needlefish, Halfbeaks

2 species

Order Cyriniformes: Minnows,

Carps, Catfish

1 species of sea catfish

Order Lophiiformes: Goosefishes,

Frogfishes

1 species of frogfish Order Perciformes:Perchlike

fishes

36 species including dolphin, sailfish, swordfish, snapper, Mullett, tuna, mackerel, and grouper. Order Pleuronectiformes:

Flatfishes

1 species of flounder

Order Tetrachdontiformes: Triggerfishes, Puffers, etc.

11 species

In later issues I will describe the different types of fish poisoning and will try to find out about the fishes that we usually eat from off Cholla. I assume we don't have to worry about them since I notice that some of the poisoning is from eating the livers or intestines and even spoiled fish.

-Tom Burch

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MEXICO, U. S. AGREE TO JOINT DISASTER ASSISTANCE & RELIEF

Mexico and the United States will erase their national borders in the future insofar as they concern joint emergency planning and mutual assistance in case of natural disasters according to an agreement signed in Washington last May by Secretary of State Dean Rusk and Mexican Ambassador to the United States, Hugo B. Margain, creating the official machinery for prompt mutual assistance in event of need.

This was an outgrowth of joint rescue and relief operations following last October's Hurricane Beulah and the agreement provides advance planning to handle such disasters as Beulah, which brought floods to both sides of the Rio Grande River.

Price Daniel, former Texas Governor and U.S. Senator and now Director of the Residential Office of Emergency Planning, will head a U.S. Committee to work with Mexican counterparts in making advance plans for handling border disasters.

Daniel said precautionary planning before disasters occur should save many lives and protect much property. He recalled that dispatch of U.S. military helicopters to the Nogales area of Sonora would have been much speedier last year during severe floods there, had an agreement such as the one just signed been in existence at the time. (Arizona Republic)

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TUCSON SCUTTLEBUTT

We had a good May meeting. About fifty members were present. The Derby was the main topic of discussion and we believe nearly all members are satisfied with the rules this year. Vice President, Hector Guglielmo, has mailed a letter to 32 of Tucson's leading stores requesting participation and prizes.

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A U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary has been formed in Tucson. You must pass a stiff exam to join. The cost is \$20.50. The free piloting course by the U.S. Power Squadron at the University of Arizona will prepare you.

For your information an American commercial hauler is not permitted to operate across the border. If you have a trailer to bring to Cholla you must haul it yourself or hire a licensed Mexican hauler to pick it up at the border. One of our members ran into this problem last week.

The use of C.B. sets on vehicles in Mexico was discussed. No one present seemed to know the law, but it seems that at Nogales some sets were either sealed off or held until the owner returned. We understand that some of the huge caravans traveling through that country chatted over every wave length and neither the local police nor the Army could get clear air for the messages.

We have 214 members signed up to date.



Maine Bloodworm Industry

Two species of marine worms used as bait supported the fourth most valuable fishery in Maine with a 1963 landed value of 1.2 million dollars. The bloodworm Glycera dibranchata has the highest landed value of any Maine marine resource. To more than 900 licensees in 1963, bloodworms had a value of 2.40 dollars a pound.

-Australian Fisheries Newsletter February 1965

Record World Fish Catch

The world fish catch reached a record 46,400,000 metric tons in 1963, according to a Bulletin of Fishery Statistics released by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

This was an increase of about 2,4 percent over the previous record catch of 45,300,000 tons in 1962. Peru which brought in 6,901,300 metric tons was the world's top fishing nation, followed by Japan with a haul of 6,697,800 tons.

FAO again ranked Mainland China as the world's No. 3 fishing nation, although computation of its catch continued to be based on estimates. Mainland China's catch has been estimated by FAO at about 5,000,000 tons for the past four years. In fourth and fifth place respectively came the USSR (4,000,000 tons) and the United States (2,711,900 tons).

-Australian Fisheries Newsletter February 1965

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Single membership dues for NEW members for the last half of the year have been reduced to \$6.00. The dues for spouse and sponsored children remain the same at \$2.00 each.

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